

votes Nos. 293 through 304. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: rollcall No. 293, "no"; rollcall No. 294, "no"; rollcall No. 295, "no"; rollcall No. 296, "aye"; rollcall No. 297, "no"; rollcall No. 298, "no"; rollcall No. 299, "no"; rollcall No. 300, "no"; rollcall No. 301, "no"; rollcall No. 302, "aye"; rollcall No. 303, "aye"; rollcall No. 304, "no".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for rollcall votes 326–335 as I was visiting our servicemen and women at Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, North Carolina and traveling with the President to my Congressional District. Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 326, "yes"; rollcall No. 327, "no"; rollcall No. 328, "no"; rollcall No. 329, "no"; rollcall No. 330, "yes"; rollcall No. 331, "yes"; rollcall No. 332, "yes"; rollcall No. 333, "yes"; rollcall No. 334, "no"; rollcall No. 335, "yes".

TRIBUTE TO MRS. JANIE HOLLOMAN JOHNSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Janie Holloman Johnson, a native South Carolinian whose dedication to service for all God's children shines as an example to each of us. On July 13, 2005, she will celebrate her 100th birthday, and I believe it is important to highlight a few of the contributions she has made during her life as we commemorate her centennial birthday.

Born in Timmonsville, South Carolina, Mrs. Johnson attended public schools in Darlington County where she had to walk four miles each way on a daily basis. An avid learner from an early age, she was one of a few students who had the capability to recite her ABC's forwards and backwards with great speed. As an example of her commitment to learning, at the age of 69, Mrs. Johnson went back to school to receive her high school diploma from Old Johnson High School in Timmonsville, South Carolina, taking night classes to achieve this long time goal.

Mrs. Johnson has been a tireless worker in her community. After she received her diploma, she held classes in the community to teach others to read and dial a telephone. In addition, she served as a caretaker to disabled members of her family and to others in the community at large.

Mrs. Johnson has been a longtime and active member of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Timmonsville, South Carolina serving in many capacities including the church choir, the Sunday School Department, and the Missionary Society. Her roots in the church date back to her childhood, where she received religious training from her parents and the leaders of Center Baptist Church in Timmonsville where she worshipped while growing up.

In addition to being a woman of faith, a woman dedicated to her community, and a woman who is a lifelong advocate of learning; Mrs. Johnson is a woman dedicated to family. She is the widow of the late Evander Johnson, Sr. to whom she was married for 65 years until his death. She is the mother of 6 children, 17 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, 5 great-great grandchildren, and 1 great-great-great grandchild.

While their children were young, the family lived as sharecroppers and Mrs. Johnson handmade most of the clothes for her growing children. Once her children were grown, she became a cosmetologist and worked from her home. To this day, she is still active with volunteer work in her community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life and legacy of this venerable woman on her 100th birthday. She blazed a trail in her community through Christian service that continues to influence future generations. And she has demonstrated, with great fervor, her timeless commitment to serve the people of her community. I wish her a Happy Birthday and Godspeed.

CONGRATULATING MILLINOCKET REGIONAL HOSPITAL FOR FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Millinocket Regional Hospital for fifty years of dedicated service to the Katahdin Region.

For half a century the Millinocket Regional Hospital has touched the lives of all us in the Katahdin Region. Like most who live in our area, my family has experienced the full range of experiences at MRH, from the joy of childbirth to the care of an ailing loved one. Through it all, the employees of MRH, past and present, have provided a caring and supportive haven for everyone and their dedication to compassionate care is second-to-none.

The Millinocket Regional Hospital will celebrate their half century of service this weekend and I am sure the people of the Katahdin region will unite in celebrating so many dedicated years of service.

The Millinocket Regional Hospital has provided essential access to health care services to our communities and I look forward to MRH's continued service to the Katahdin Region. Congratulations to all who have contributed to the hospital's longevity and success.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL FRANK GALLEGOS

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Colonel Frank Gallegos, Commander of the 30th Space Wing and the Western Range at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California. Colonel Gallegos will be retiring after more than twenty-four years of faithful service to our nation.

Colonel Gallegos entered the Air Force in 1981 after graduating from the United States Air Force Academy. Since then, he has served in various operational assignments, and has performed staff duties at Headquarters, United States Air Force; Strategic Air Command; and on the Joint Staff. Colonel Gallegos also served as the Vice Commander of the Air Force Space Command and has commanded the 12th Missile Squadron at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana and the 90th Operations Group at Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming.

Throughout his career in the Air Force, Colonel Gallegos has always maintained a commitment to the men over which he commanded. While some military leaders choose not to know the personnel which they command, Colonel Gallegos has maintained a reputation as someone who places his troops before himself. In fact, in each one of his command posts, Colonel Gallegos established personal relationships with each of his Airmen, understanding that such relationships are important to maintaining cohesion, respect, and morale.

Colonel Gallegos is a true leader, worthy of recognition. His strategic, tactical, and operational expertise has served our nation well and as our armed forces continue to confront the threat of terrorism around the world, we look to individuals like Colonel Gallegos to lead the fight. His replacement, Colonel Jack Weinstein, will be given the command of a Wing that represents the best this country has to offer. I am confident that he will provide the Airmen of Vandenberg Air Force Base with the same leadership and dedication that Colonel Gallegos exhibited for so many years.

Colonel Gallegos will retire to Omaha, Nebraska, the same place he met his wife Julie. His time with his wife and his daughters is well deserved and I would like to wish him the best of luck in the years to come. On the occasion of his retirement, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the dedication and service of Colonel Frank Gallegos.

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL CHARLES R. ALEXANDER, JR. UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGI- NEERS

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2003

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today and honor Colonel Charles R. "Ray" Alexander, Jr. of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. On July 14, 2005, Colonel Alexander will retire after serving the people of this great nation for over twenty-three years.

Ray Alexander was a decorated officer, who spent his career ensuring that the freedoms the United States holds dear are protected. Throughout his illustrious career, Colonel Alexander was honored with the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Parachutist and Air Assault Badge, and Joint Specialty Officer.

As Commander of the Wilmington District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers,